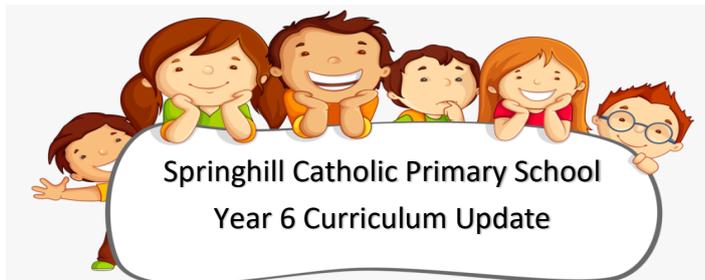




The water that I will give them will become a spring of water within, welling up to eternal life.
JOHN 4:14



Summer 1 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our half termly newsletter which will give you a flavour of what your child will be learning and experiencing in year 6 during the upcoming half term. We hope you find it useful.

We hope you enjoyed the Easter holidays and had some quality time as a family. We have a busy and somewhat emotional week ahead as we commemorate the year anniversary of the passing of our dear friend Mr Rylands. To mark this special occasion, we will be having a remembrance mass on Monday 15th April. Mrs Chapman will be on hand to offer emotional support to those who need it.

With four weeks to go until the children's SATs tests, it is hardly surprising that we will be undertaking some final revision to ensure that everyone is feeling confident and well prepared. The whole year 6 team of teachers and LSAs will be working very hard in this final month to plug any individual gaps and build the children's self-esteem. Additionally, we have booked a mental health workshop for each class to offer tips to deal with any exam nerves.

We will be having one more mock SATs week before the real thing as a final practice run and an opportunity for the year 6 staff to make any last minute amendments to the SATs week plans to ensure the test conditions are as calm and focussed as possible.

SATs week is the week beginning Monday 13th May and we will be offering the children SATs breakfast at 8.30 am each day (for many, this is the highlight of SATs week). On Friday 17th May, we will be taking the children on a retreat day at Southampton Common— this will be a time to reflect, play games, unwind and relax with their friends. Please send the children in weather-appropriate clothes and with a packed lunch— don't worry, will remind you of this nearer the time.

Our **RE** curriculum this half term focuses on teaching children about the appearances of Jesus after his resurrection, particularly highlighting the story of Doubting Thomas. Through engaging activities, including acting and discussions, the children will understand the significance of the different appearances in strengthening the faith of Jesus' followers. We encourage parents to reinforce these lessons at home by discussing the importance of faith, belief and the transformative power of encountering the risen Christ.

As soon as the SATs tests are over, we will resume some of the subjects which have been temporarily paused over the past few weeks such as history, geography, art and DT. In **history**, the children will be learning about the Ancient Maya civilisation. We will launch the topic with an artistic project where the children will make Mayan headbands with feathers, jewels and animal print. We will then learn about the sophisticated number and letter systems used by the Maya, research some of the more gruesome aspects of their culture (such as human sacrifice) and analyse sources of evidence to discover why the Mayan empire ended so quickly.

In **geography**, we will be learning about biomes and climate change. We will undertake an investigative study on the impact of climate change on different biomes across the world. We will also be looking at the impact of renewable and non-renewable energy sources and ways to combat the climate change crisis.

Our final **science** topic of the year focuses on evolution. During this unit, we will be analysing how we know that living things have changed over time. We will also look at Charles Darwin's findings and consider how animals and plants have adapted to suit their environment.

Diary Dates

Monday 15th April— Memorial Mass for Mr Rylands

Tuesday 16th April— Mental Health workshop 6JS

Friday 19th April— Mental Health Workshop 6LP

Friday 26th April— Mental Health Workshop 6JP

Wednesday 17th April— Easter Mass

Monday 22nd April— Earth Day (wear blue or green)

Thursday 9th May— Ascension Mass

Monday 13th May— SATs week

Friday 17th May— Retreat at Southampton Common

Tuesday 21st May— Incredible Inventors Day

Friday 24th May— Last day of term

Remember, we are here to help— if you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact us! From Miss Calver and the year 6 team